PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Satoshi SASAKI et al.

Application No.: 10/782,797

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: MULTILAYER PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENT

Group Art Unit: 2834

Examiner: J. Aguirrechea

Docket No.: 118793

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the March 1, 2005, Office Action, the shortened statutory period for response being extended by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-6 are pending.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Takagi (JP2002-254634) in view of Watanabe (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2004/0130604). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action at page 2 acknowledges that Takagi does not disclose or suggest all the features of claim 1. However, the Office Action asserts that Watanabe compensates for the deficiencies of Takagi.

Applicants claim the foreign priority date of the foreign priority document (Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-051762 filed February 27, 2003). An accurate English language translation of the priority document is enclosed. Watanabe, on the other hand, has a filing

Application No. 10/782,797

date of September 24, 2003. Therefore, Watanabe cannot be used as prior art over the claimed invention.

Therefore, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter. Claims 2-6 depend from independent claim 1, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff

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JAO:YSC/hs

Date: June 27, 2005

Attachment:

English-language translation of priority document Petition for Extension of Time

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